

Rep. Petri's E-Newsletter

March 3, 2009

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Wrong Direction on Stimulus

Major government stimulus is definitely needed to get the economy moving again. But not all stimulus is created equal. I believe the stimulus proposal championed by the President and ultimately approved by Congress was tragically flawed, and I reluctantly opposed it.

The \$787 billion stimulus law includes too little short-term spending and too much topping off of government programs in ways which will likely inflate baseline budgets permanently, making it much harder for us to restrain spending and get back to balanced budgets once the economy recovers.

More emphasis should have been placed on repairing infrastructure - taking care of long-delayed maintenance of roads, bridges and the like - projects which would pay for themselves over time in increased economy efficiency. In the final bill signed into law, only eight percent of the total was committed